



Scholarship winner, p.6



Bridging Communities Vigil, p.7



PHOTO BY JENNIFER STERLING

At the Greenbelt Memorial Day Observance on May 31, Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers, Dana Colmen, Butch Hicks and Jim Harbaugh face the camera while John Hill, Commissioner Mike Moore, Mayor Colin Byrd and Councilmember Judith Davis face Crescent Road during the wreath ceremony. See story, page 12.

School Boundary Changes Will Affect Greenbelt Students

by Amy Hansen

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

On May 27, Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) released the interim report for the system's Comprehensive School Boundary Initiative. The report presents the findings from the first phase of data analysis and community engagement, including three draft plans and maps depicting potential future boundaries that are expected to be phased in for the 2022–2023 school year.

While many Greenbelt stu-

dents will remain in the schools they are currently in, there are some significant changes being proposed. Depending on exactly where they live, students living in Franklin Park might move from Springhill Lake Elementary to Greenbelt Elementary and from Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) to Parkdale High School.

Students in Greenbelt Station might move from ERHS to High Point High School. Those on Hanover Parkway near Schrom Hills Park might move from

See **SCHOOLS**, page 6

Happy
Greenbelt
Day!

FEMA Vax Site Now Closed

After eight weeks and 116,000 vaccinations, the FEMA vaccination site located at the Greenbelt Metro station closed after Tuesday, June 1. With vaccination demand slowed, the site completed its mission.

Metro Station Also Closed

Metro stations on the Green Line in Maryland, including the Greenbelt Station, are now closed through Monday, September 6 for platform improvements.

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

What Goes On

Friday, June 4 to Sunday, June 6
Greenbelt Day Weekend: See City ad on p. 5.
Monday, June 7
8 p.m. City Council Meeting: Budget Adoption

All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY MARY ANN TRETTER

Annamarie Garcia puts together St. Hugh Food Pantry “kid bags” on Wednesday mornings. See story, page 4.

Budget 2022

Council Nears Agreement On Budget but Issues Remain

by Diane Oberg

It was not always pretty but the Greenbelt City Council appeared to be nearing a consensus on how to balance the Fiscal Year 2022 budget at the second final budget worksession on May 26. It appears that a proposal by Councilmember Judith Davis will be the basis for approval, although her colleagues may make additional additions or reductions to her proposal at the meeting. Mayor Colin Byrd stated that he would “almost certainly” vote against the budget unless it included the director of race and gender equity that he had proposed late in the first final budget

worksession on May 17. This position is not included in Davis’ proposal.

Davis proposed using reserve funds equivalent to 0.76 percent of total expenditures, along with the \$42,000 reduction in the pension estimate for Information Technology to pay for the \$200,000 increase in the city workers’ compensation premium, \$60,000 for a space study, \$3,600 for an intern for economic development (for 12 weeks), \$4,500 to expand the tile floor project at the Aquatic & Fitness Center,

See **BUDGET**, page 8

George Mathews, Community Liaison, Will Retire in June

by Julie Rapp

George Mathews, the Greenbelt Police Department community relations liaison, is retiring June 18 after eight years in this position and a total of 42 years in law enforcement. Mathews started his career for the City of Hyattsville as a dispatcher and then as a police officer. Mathews related that he wanted to become an officer after befriending many of the Hyattsville officers while working as a dispatcher.

“I would ride with many of these officers in their cruisers after my shift was over and I witnessed many officers going that extra mile to help people,” stated Mathews. “I liked the idea it doesn’t take much to make someone’s day.”

After his training, Mathews worked as a police officer for



PHOTO BY JULIE RAPP

George Mathews

two years in Hyattsville before joining the Greenbelt Police Department as a police officer. He spent the next 23 years with Greenbelt, retiring from active duty in 2009 with a total of 30

See **MATHEWS**, page 9



PHOTO BY CORITA WATERS

Are these hostas breaking out in cicadas?

Letters to the Editor

Intercepted Mail

On Monday, May 17, I realized I had a problem when my credit card was not accepted at Staples. Upon checking my bank statement, I determined that there were six checks that should have reached their destinations but didn't, including the most recent payment for my credit card. None of those checks have been deposited; they simply disappeared. Further investigation revealed that there were six other letters I mailed that never reached their intended recipients. All 12 items were mailed via a neighborhood postal box. I called the Greenbelt Police and also filed a problem report with the USPS Inspection Service.

Following the advice in the Greenbelt News Review, I no longer deposit any of my mail in a neighborhood postal box; I drive to the post office and mail my letters inside. Also, my credit card payments are now made electronically.

Jim Gray



Masks Up?

The CDC has relaxed masking recommendations for the vaccinated since April. While our city council has had plenty of high-priority business to address, it is high time to reconsider the need for a mask-wearing mandate, at least in non-crowded outdoor settings.

It appears that the majority of Greenbelters no longer wear masks outdoors, except where the behavior is explicitly monitored, such as at the Farmers Market. Before the epidemiologists' guidance changed, most of us did mask.

A safety imperative can make it worthwhile to stand by rules that much of the public does not support. Is this policy still important to the health of Greenbelt or is it time for tweaks? Some vulnerable citizens' bodies are unable to develop Covid-19 antibodies, but how much does a "Masks Up" sign protect those neighbors? For that matter, is "Masks Up" intended to convey something different than the former signs?

Maintaining a frequently ignored policy without at least a public dialogue by our representatives seems unwise.

David Shapiro

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See our website, greenbeltnewsreview.com, for articles in Spanish.

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Service or Garden Side?



Sorry, I can't talk right now, I'm only on page 26 of this online registration.

B. Glee

Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



Greenbelt ES Student Scores In "If I Were Mayor" Contest

by Kathleen Gallagher

Every year the Maryland Municipal League sponsors an essay contest for fourth-graders throughout the state. It attracts thousands of entries, and among the winners this year is Eleanor Cooper, a student at Greenbelt Elementary School, who was named as a Runner-Up for District 9, which includes Prince George's County.

In a normal year, a Greenbelt student with a successful essay would be able to come to a city council meeting, gavel the meeting to order and otherwise assist Greenbelt's elected mayor, but because of the pandemic, Eleanor attended via Zoom.

Contest entries are required to open with the words, "If I were mayor, I would ..." and continue to display knowledge about municipal government and the role of a mayor. Eleanor did just that when invited by Mayor Colin Byrd to read her essay. Her topic involved what a mayor could do to educate residents about matters that are critical to the city.

Eleanor focused on the maglev train, to which she is opposed. She enumerated city departments that could play a role and said she would meet with other city organizations, as well as attend Zoom meetings at Greenbelt schools to discuss it. Her overall goal would be for residents to work together to try to change maglev's course.

As mayor, however, Eleanor said she would listen to all opinions and try to understand all points of view. She thinks that



SCREENSHOT BY BEVERLY PALAU

Eleanor Cooper, a 4th grader at Greenbelt Elementary School, would stop the maglev if she were mayor.

because of its speed, maglev might be useful if it took another route in a different place. She would do whatever she could, working with her community to alter the proposed route. As planned, she believes the maglev would destroy animal habitats and do significant damage to the Greenbelt Forest Preserve.

Byrd congratulated Eleanor on her work. He added that he is enthusiastic about her ideas, and he promised to follow up on some of them.

Essay by Eleanor Cooper, Greenbelt Elementary School

If I were the mayor, I would help raise awareness about the maglev train going through our neighborhood. I would make sure people know about its route by putting up virtual posters that show the current route on local websites and by putting up real posters in community locations where people are most likely to see them. This would help to alert the people of my community that the maglev's current route is going to run through Greenbelt's Forest Preserve.

I can host Zoom meetings with people like the police department, public works department, and other Greenbelt organizations to inform them of the maglev. I would ask them to help spread awareness so more people would know about the issue. I could also visit the Zoom meetings of some classes of Greenbelt schools to discuss it. Then we could all work together to try to change the maglev's course.

I think the maglev shouldn't run through our Forest Preserve because it would destroy a lot of animals' habitats. It would also go through a lot of the paths that run through the Forest Preserve so people could not enjoy those paths. I would listen to both sides of this problem so I can see how people would like the maglev. It can travel at amazing speeds and take you places in a very short amount of time.

I think the maglev could be useful if it went on another course. If it followed the current course, I would do everything I could do, with the help of my community, to alter it. The Forest Preserve is too important to Greenbelt for it to be destroyed.



Greenbelt News Review

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PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display Ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All Letters to the Editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified Ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.

OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.

Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

Community Events

At the Library

The Greenbelt Library now has limited in-person services available by appointment. Ap-
pointments for one hour of computer use or 15 minutes of browsing borrowable library materials can be made at pgcmls.info/reopening or 240-455-5451. Reservations can be made up to seven days in advance.

Curbside service remains available, also by appointment only. Hours: Tuesdays, 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 8 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays, 1 to 6 p.m.; and Saturdays, 1 to 5 p.m. Items for curbside pickup should be retrieved from the table placed outside the lower-level entrance, which is marked with signs indicating the four separate pickup spots. Customers arriving in a vehicle may park in the parking lot, but staff will not come to their vehicle unless a customer indicates a special need for assistance in their appointment request. All customers must wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines. Customers are reminded that the curb in front of the library entrance is both a fire lane and a delivery zone.

The external book drop is open for collecting customer returns. Items will be held in quarantine for two days and should then clear the customer's account.

Greenbelt now has mobile printing available. More information is available at pgcmls.info/mobile-printing.

Vaccine Assistance

PGCMLS offers an English and Spanish Covid-19 Vaccine Hunter Hotline at 240-392-3622 operating Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The hotline will assist by directly booking vaccination appointments, adding people to vaccine pre-registration lists and answering questions about the vaccination process.

Kids Achieve Club

The Kids Achieve Club program provides academic support with homework assistance and reading practice in English for Speakers of Other Languages for students in grades 1 to 6. The program was created to support the unique needs of English learners to foster a love of reading and to provide academic support.

Donate Sneakers For People in Need

The Board of Congregational Life at Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ (GCC) is collecting athletic shoes by partnering with GotSneakers. This sneaker recycling program helps to keep sneakers out of landfills, which has harmful effects on the environment, and will send the sneakers to countries where the poor often go barefoot out of necessity. For more information about GotSneakers, go to their website at GotSneakers.com.

A donation box for sneakers will be placed outside of Fellowship Center, the small building behind the church, for people to drop off sneakers at any time. GotSneakers will pay GCC a varying amount for name-brand and off-brand laced-up sneakers with no tears inside or outside. The company even pays for cleaning and shipping – all GCC does is collect sneakers.

In-Person Ice Cream Social for Golden Agers?

The Greenbelt Golden Age group hopes to meet in person for an ice cream social on June 30. More details to come. But for now, the group continues to meet by Zoom (or phone) every Wednesday at 11 a.m. To join the Zoom or phone or email list, contact Rebekah (Becky) Sutfin at 240-542-2056 (leave a message) or at RSUTFIN@Greenbeltnmd.gov. Robin Olson sends out information to everyone on the email list weekly or more often if there is important info for seniors.

On June 9, Golden Age member Rahul Mehta will be presenting some of his amazing photographs. Mehta said, "Photography has been my passion. The camera is my third eye and the film, my memories. I pursue the art of photography for personal pleasure and to express myself creatively. I take you with me on a journey to view some of the precious moments that I have captured over the years."

Other meetings this month: June 16, June birthday celebration; June 23, BINGO; June 30, Ice Cream Social, hopefully in person.



Museum Hosts Talk On the North End

On Thursday, June 17 at 7:30 p.m., the Greenbelt Museum will host a talk on The North End: Greenbelt's World War II Community.

When defense housing was built within Greenbelt, the town became divided into two neighborhoods, with two different populations living in two kinds of housing, defense and nondefense. The two neighborhoods bonded through the homefront experiences of World War II and the cooperative nature of Greenbelt's municipal, social and economic institutions. But one section of defense housing, physically and sociologically separate from the planned community, created its own identity and spaces. This area became known as the North End. Volunteer docent Stephen Oetken will lead a virtual stroll through the North End and discuss what made, and continues to make, this area a unique part of Greenbelt's history.

This live virtual lecture is free but advance registration is required to receive the Zoom link. To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/the-north-end-greenbelts-wwii-defense-community-tickets-141478262291.

Free Outdoor Concert At Darnall's Chance

The Salvation Army Band will perform a free outdoor lawn concert on Saturday, June 5 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Darnall's Chance House Museum, 14800 Governor Oden Bowie Drive in Upper Marlboro.

Guests of all ages may bring blankets, chairs and a picnic and enjoy a mix of Big Band, Ragtime and Americana tunes. For more information, call 301-952-8010; TTY 301-699-2544. Required registration is through PARKS DIRECT!

Join Connecting Across Greenbelt

Join Connecting Across Greenbelt (CAG) to connect with neighbors. The group meets monthly to build understanding of one another, to encourage inclusivity, cultivate relationships and to determine the necessary actions to ensure that the city's resources and services are equitably distributed. There are activities in all areas of Greenbelt to promote important conversations as a way to create a city welcoming to everyone.

CAG is a multi-cultural, multi-racial and multi-generational group of residents who gather virtually to build relationships across neighborhoods and to understand current challenges for all Greenbelters. The group is building multiple resources. The first is research-tested coping strategies for self-care and stress management called the Caring and Connecting Toolkit (bit.ly/CAGtoolkit). Connecting will join Unplugged for a day of croquet and games outdoors in June. To find out about the group's monthly meetings, Connecting Across Greenbelt: Community Conversations, email communityconnectionsbg@gmail.com.

Foundation Showcases Local Groups in June

Greenbelt Community Foundation (GCF) announced that its 2021 Showcase will be streaming all weekend long on Saturday and Sunday, June 5 and 6. The showcase, viewable online, will feature past grant recipients sharing their passion and talents.

Groups being featured in the hour-long showcase include Higher Achievement, GIVES, The Space: Free Art for All, Greenbelt Arts Center, Friends of the New Deal Café, Greenbelt Archive Project, Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, the Old Greenbelt Theatre, Alex and Olmsted, and Eleanor Roosevelt High School students.

Every year GCF hosts a Showcase so donors can see the effect that donated dollars have made to the local community. This year, for everyone's safety, GCF has elected to hold this fundraiser online.

To buy a ticket to the showcase or to make a donation, visit GreenbeltFoundation.org.

Boxwood Scholarship

The Boxwood Village Civic Association offers an annual \$500 scholarship to a current Boxwood Village resident. It is available to graduating high school seniors and full-time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) undergraduate students. The scholarship is partially funded through the proceeds from the Boxwood booth at the Greenbelt Labor Day Festival, Annual Boxwood Yard Sale and other activities.

The application form should be completed and returned by June 30. A scholarship committee comprised of three Boxwood Village residents will choose this year's recipient. For further information or to pick up an application form, email Pat McAndrew at pmcandrew@mzmlaw.net.

GCAN Zoom: Jobs Plan, Energy

The Greenbelt Climate Action Network will meet via Zoom on Wednesday, June 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. (Zoom link at cheers.org/gcan).

Jorge Aguilar from Food & Water Watch and Jamie DeMarco from Chesapeake Climate Action Network will be discussing the American Jobs Plan and the Clean Energy Standard and the likelihood that either of these proposals can become law, given our current Congress.

Some of the questions for discussion are:

1. Are either 50 percent by 2030 or 100 percent by 2035 reasonable greenhouse gas reduction goals for the Clean Energy Standard?

2. How does the Clean Energy Standard compare to the Renewable Electricity Standard, a more stringent proposal that removes natural gas, nuclear, biofuels, offsets, etc.?

3. What is the possibility that Congress will remove all mention of green infrastructure (green jobs and renewable energy) from the American Jobs Plan to satisfy the more conservative base?

There will be plenty of time for participants to discuss these and other issues with Jorge and Jamie after their presentations.



Free Decluttering Online Workshop

On Saturday, June 5 at 1 p.m., as part of Greenbelt Day Weekend, there will a free Zoom presentation on Decluttering and Downsizing. Barbara Davis is a local organizer and coach on ways to clear out clutter. Although sponsored by the city's Senior Citizen Advisory Committee, this lecture is open to all ages. To register and get the Zoom link, visit bit.ly/2R2fzvr.

New Deal & Art Deco

On Sunday, June 6, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., join the Greenbelt Museum for a virtual panel talk that explores how the New Deal transformed the greater Washington area through parks, buildings, bridges, art, housing (Greenbelt), the Pentagon and more. This virtual panel discussion featuring architectural historian Isabelle Gournay, historian Brett McCabe and Richard A. Walker, current executive director of the Living New Deal Project, is offered in conjunction with the Living New Deal Project and cosponsored by the Art Deco Society of Washington. The talk is free, but pre-registration is required. To register, visit eventbrite.com/e/how-the-new-deal-transformed-greater-washington-tickets-153698318809?aff=ebdsoporgprofile.

Greenbelt Virtual Business Coffee



Greenbelt City Council will host a virtual business coffee on Tuesday, June 8 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Learn about the latest happenings in and around Greenbelt as well as connect with other local businesses.

During this virtual session, businesses will be engaged in a facilitated discussion about the tools, strategies and resources needed to look beyond reopening and recovery to long-term business sustainability and resiliency.

Space is limited. To register go to greenbelt-business-coffee-june-2021.eventbrite.com. The Zoom link will be sent to all participants 24 hours before the event.

Paint Out Picnic

Join Artist-in-Residence Racquel Keller to paint in Buddy Attick Park on Sunday, June 6. Sign up for one of two timeslots, 11 a.m. to noon or noon to 1 p.m. Participants may bring their own materials or receive a basic set of paints and supplies from Greenbelt Recreation Arts. Sign up at signupgenius.com/go/paintoutpicnic. This event is free.

GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Friday June 4 - Thursday June 10		
TAKE OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY TODAY! https://www.greenbeltaccesstv.org/community-survey		
PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE	CONNECT WITH GATe ON  	
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Local Community Programming
8 am	Democracy Now!	Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	GATe Classic Film ★★★★★ Musical • 1938	The Duke is Tops Directed by William Nolte Ralph Cooper • Lena Horne Lena Horne's first movie appearance
10:30 am	Strata: Portraits of Humanity	Exploring Human Cultural Heritage
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	Local Community Programming
Noon	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	Elementary Edition Hoyer v Laurel
2 pm	Music at the New Deal Café S2E5	Zakke • Nine Piece Latin Fusion Band
3 pm	GATe Classic Film ★★★★★ Musical • 1938	The Duke is Tops Directed by William Nolte Ralph Cooper • Lena Horne Lena Horne's first movie appearance
4:30 pm	Strata: Portraits of Humanity	Exploring Human Cultural Heritage
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	Elementary Edition Hoyer v Laurel
6 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	Local Community Programming
7 pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
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11 pm	Democracy Now!	Today's Syndicated Program
Midnight	Greenbelt Newsreel	Local Community Programming
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccesstv.org/channel-live-stream		

St. Hugh Food Pantry Feeds 50 Families a Week

by Mary Ann Tretler

The St. Hugh Food Pantry continues to provide food bags to 50 families a week. In addition to the food bags there has been a continued need for “kid bags.” These bags were started several summers ago to help families with children at home who needed extra food to make up for the children not getting meals at school. Families, particularly during the pandemic, have needed this supplemental kid-friendly food (mac and cheese, canned pasta, canned fruit, snacks). Families coming to the pantry report how helpful it is to get the extra food for their children.

In coordination with RUAK/ Porch Project (Robert Goldberg-Strassler), Franklin Park management staff (Donna Wilson, Denise Knight) and the St. Hugh Ladies of Charity, the food pantry has been able to expand to an onsite monthly food distribution. Franklin Park staff identified 30 families who need to receive food bags at the management office. RUAK also provided onsite children’s books to be given out



Donna Wilson, Robert Goldberg-Strassler, Ric Gordon and Mary Ann Tretler staff the Food Pantry at Franklin Park.

with the food. This project started in March of this year.

Even though all of the food pantry families have returned to work, they are still struggling to get full-time hours. Many of them work in retail and their hours vary from week to week. They are all also trying to get caught up with back payments owed for rent and utilities. Many are waiting on responses to applications they have made for county rent assistance related to earlier pandemic job losses.

The St. Hugh Food Pantry continues to provide, as donations allow, grocery store gift cards to help families purchase perishable food items such as milk, eggs, fresh produce and meat. The pantry feels fortunate to have in Greenbelt a generous neighbor, Bob Rand, who continues to bring fresh fruit from the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket on Tuesdays and Thursdays for pantry families. The St. Hugh Food Pantry works with Carol Drees of GIVES to provide 13 bags of food along with fresh produce on a monthly basis to Greenbelters who are homebound. St. Hugh Church also sponsors a Catholic Charities SHARE Food program. Parishioners purchase SHARE food packages (fresh produce, meat/fish) that are distributed to food pantry families in the St. Hugh School parking lot once a month.

The need to assist families with food supplementation continues as we gradually get back to normal times. As always the church is grateful to their partner of many years, the Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and its staff, for sponsoring the \$5 Co-op donation food bags. The St. Hugh Food Pantry would not be able to manage without the support and the generosity of the store patrons who purchase the bags. St. Hugh’s volunteers pick up between 120 to 140 bags a week.

PHOTO BY MARY ANN TRETTLER

Phyllis Cook

Longtime resident of Windsor Green, Phyllis Jean Cook, 87, died at her home on May 19, 2021. Known as Jean to family and friends, she was born July 6, 1933, in Bellwood, Pa., to Felice and Laura (Pedro) Cristillo. The fourth of six children, she grew up in a close-knit Italian family. She graduated from Altoona High School in 1953 and during senior year met her future husband, John Franklin Cook of Duncansville, Pa. They married on January 11, 1958, and settled in Maryland in 1966.

Known as Nana to her grandchildren, Jean enjoyed cooking and baking with her husband and sisters. Her Italian dishes were joyfully anticipated at family gatherings and holidays, especially her Italian cookies at Christmas, macaroni salad in summer and her pasta all year round.



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Phyllis Jean Cook

She loved reading mysteries, gardening and cheering on the local Washington sports teams, especially the Nationals, Capitals and her favorites, the Washington Football Team and the University of Maryland Terrapins basketball team. Of course, she still kept

an eye on the Pittsburgh Steelers. In recent years, her strength and devotion was focused on caring for her ailing husband, John. As day-to-day caregiver and best friend, she dedicated herself to taking care of him without hesitation.

Jean is survived by her husband John; a son, James Cook and his wife, Susan, and daughters Alexandra and Jennifer of Glenelg; and her daughter, Laura Ann Moleski and husband Walt, and their daughter Gabrielle and son Ryan of Laurel. She will also be missed by members of her extended family in Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Services will be held in Bowie on June 1 and 2. Jean will then make her final trip home to Altoona, Pa., where her life will be celebrated on June 3 with a Catholic service and interment.

Our Neighbors

Condolences to the family and friends of Phyllis Cook of Windsor Green, who died on May 19.

Congratulations to Noah Cohen-Mitchell of Westway, son of Joanie Cohen and Tim Mitchell, who graduated on May 26 from St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel with a 4.3 GPA. While at Pallotti, Noah was inducted into the National Honor Society and the National English Honor Society and played varsity soccer. Noah was the recipient of the American Legion “Americanism Award” for Academic Excellence and Community Service, the President’s Award for Academic Excellence and the Greenbelt Lion’s Club annual scholarship. Noah will head to The College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio, in the fall majoring in history and minoring in education. Three cheers for Noah and his family.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Community Church Has Outdoor Service

Greenbelt Community Church, United Church of Christ is having an outdoor Sunday service on the lawn, June 20. Weather permitting, the services will begin at 10:15 a.m. at 1 Hillside Road. All are welcome to join in worship.

A few chairs will be available, but it is recommended that people bring their own chairs. Attendees will continue to mask and social distance. In the advent of rain, the service will be virtual on Zoom and Facebook.



CATHOLIC COMMUNITY of GREENBELT

During the pandemic, we gather VIRTUALLY for Liturgy of the Word Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For ZOOM link:

FDeBernardo@aol.com



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
God is still speaking.

Greenbelt Community Church

Whoever you are and wherever you are on your Spiritual journey, you are welcome HERE.

www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD
www.greenbeltcommunitychurch.org

This Sunday's Sermon on Facebook Live

Sunday at 10:15

Secrets in the Family's House

The Bible Says...

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Romans 12:21



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
MCFcc.org/online

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

 Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community 

June 10 10 a.m. via Zoom

The 8th Principle: "Building Beloved Community"

Paula Cole Jones with Worship Associate Ebony Contreras

Building Beloved Community is about building a culture of inclusion. Is this our unfinished business or is it the bridge to a vibrant future for Unitarian Universalism? Many UUs around the country are working to adopt an 8th Principle that calls on us to build the Beloved Community. Will we heed the call?

Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered
Biblical
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00pm
Sunday School 9:45am
Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD
301-474-4212



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on  [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-9410

 **Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor** 

In person worship services cancelled for now.
Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.
10 a.m. Sunday mornings

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION


With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org



“Diversity is the essence of perfection and the cause of the appearance of the bestowals of the Most glorious Lord.... This diversity, this difference is like the naturally created dissimilarity and variety of the limbs and organs of the human body, for each one contributeth to the beauty, efficiency and perfection of the whole.”

— ‘Abdu’l-Bahá



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

TENTATIVE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

- Peace Month Proclamation
- Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month Proclamation
- Pollinator Week Proclamation
- Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week Proclamation
- Gun Violence Awareness Month Proclamation
- Petitions and Requests
- Administrative Reports
- Climate Emergency Resolution, 1st Reading
- FY 2022 Budget Adoption
- An Ordinance to Adopt the General Fund, Building Capital Reserve Fund, Cemetery Fund, Debt Service Fund, Replacement Fund, Special Projects Fund, Green Ridge House Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Community Development Block Grant Fund and Greenbelt West Infrastructure Fund Budgets for the City of Greenbelt, Maryland, to Appropriate Funds and Establish Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Rates for the Fiscal Year 2022 Beginning July 1, 2021 and Including June 30, 2022
- 1st Reading, Suspension of the Rules
- 2nd Reading, Adoption
- Air Conditioning in Rental Properties
- Hire a Parliamentarian
- Fourth of July Celebration
- Lifting of Prince George's County COVID-19 restrictions/In-person Council meetings
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- Meetings

In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov. This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For more information go to our website www.greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- **Advisory Committee on Education**
- **Arts Advisory Board**
- **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee**
- **Youth Advisory Committee**

For more information call 301- 474-8000

Greenbelt Recreation Summer Activity Guide & Summer Camp 2021 Guide Available at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation

Registration going on now!
Classes begin the week of June 14, 2021

Includes options for all ages and interests. Discover seasonal special events, varied recreation facilities and classes to provide opportunities for community celebrations. Learn something new or improve your skills in an activity you enjoy, all while socializing and staying active!

www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation or 301-397-2200 for more info

MEETINGS

Regular Meeting - Budget Adoption, (Rescheduled from June 14th to allow budget adoption by June 10th), Monday June 7th, 8pm, Zoom

Advisory Planning Board, June 9th, 7:30pm, Zoom

- Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plan Update

Virtual Business Coffee, June 10th, 10am, Register at [greenbelt-business-coffee-june-2021.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/greenbelt-business-coffee-june-2021)

Community Relations Advisory Board, June 10th, 7:30pm, Zoom

- Planning of Future Forums

JUNE IS PEACE MONTH

CITY PROCLAMATION

A City Proclamation declaring Peace Month will be presented at the first Council meeting in June.

POSTERS FOR PEACE MONTH

To celebrate Peace Month and to highlight the history and impact of peace artwork and posters, the Greenbelt Museum invites you to be a part of our peace poster event activity throughout June. From Picasso's Guernica in 1937 to Vietnam-era homemade signs to posters we've seen in the past year, human expression has a huge impact on changing the world.

We respect the art form and ask: **What does peace look like?** Create a sign or poster in response! If you want to share the work with our community, please put the sign in your window for Peace Month in June. The Museum would love to see a photo of your poster in the window! If you'd like us to share your photo on our Facebook page or website please send a photo to education@greenbeltmuseum.org. All ages are encouraged to participate!

JUNETEENTH!

The Juneteenth Committee is working on a schedule of activities. The schedule is anticipated to be finalized soon. It will be posted in next week's News Review.

City of Greenbelt

JUNE TEENTH

Celebrate Freedom

June 19, 2021

Little Friends for Peace

Thursdays June 3, 10, 17 - Youth ages 7 -10 can enjoy this virtual Peace and Robots Peace Club 4 – 5 pm, register at <https://form.jotform.com/211103301741132>

ARTFUL AFTERNOON PAINT-OUT PICNIC

Greenbelt Day Weekend activities include Artful Afternoon Paint-Out Picnic for all ages and experience levels. Participants register to create landscape paintings on June 6th, from 11am-12:30pm. The location is at Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road.

GREENBELT FARMERS MARKET

The Market vendors offer produce, pasture-raised meats, sustainable seafood, crepes, ice cream, crafts, plants, flowers, baked goods, ethnic food and more! Greenbelt Farmers Market is held weekly on Sundays, 10am-2pm, at the Roosevelt Center Parking Lot, Centerway.

REEL AND MEAL - FEATURING THE THIRD HARMONY

June 21 at 7 p.m. via zoom.

The Third Harmony is a 2020 documentary by Michael Nagler, co-founder of the Peace and Conflict Studies Department at U.C. Berkeley. Drawing on interviews with veteran activists like Civil Rights leader Bernard Lafayette, scientists like behaviorist Frans de Waal and neuroscientist Marco Iacoboni, Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, political scientist Erica Chenoweth, futurist Elisabet Sahtouris, and others, this 44-minute documentary will help the general public, often at a loss to understand the protests occurring in many cities, to better grasp just what nonviolence is and how it works.

GREENBELT DAY WEEKEND

Greenbelt Day Weekend 2021 marks the 82nd anniversary of the city's founding in 1937. Join friends and neighbors in celebrating the vitality of this cooperative community, embodying the living legacy of the New Deal. Learn about Greenbelt's evolution as a social and economic experiment turned National Historic Landmark at greenbeltmuseum.org.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4

9pm, MOONLIT MOVIE-13 GOING ON 30 (PG13)
Braden Field, behind the Youth Center, 99 Centerway
Sign up in advance for tickets sold through Old Greenbelt Theatre. Use the QR code or visit <https://bit.ly/3eJVOIJ>. Purchase a circle for up to 5 household members at \$25 per circle

SATURDAY, JUNE 5

10am, BUDDY ATTICK LAKE HERITAGE WALKING TOUR
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road, stage/bandstand area is tour start location
Greenbelt Reaction's Heritage Tour is a comprehensive and interactive program which will invite both Greenbelt residents and non-residents to learn about the storied history of Greenbelt's recreation development and current ecological efforts at Greenbelt Lake. The tour will take place at Buddy Attick Park where participants will be guided around Greenbelt Lake on the 1.25mile trail with seven unique stops. These "impromptu lecture stops" will include information about the creation of Greenbelt Lake, evolution of Buddy Attick Park rules, interesting stories throughout the park's history, and current water/ecological conservation efforts.

1pm, NOT FOR SENIORS ONLY: DECLUTTER & DOWNSIZING

Virtual on Zoom
Greenbelt's Senior Citizen's Advisory Committee hosts this annual workshop, open to all. Join local organizer and coach of Declutter Llama, Barbara Davis, on ways to clear out your clutter! Get motivated, get started and get it done! Sign up at <https://bit.ly/2R2>

SUNDAY, JUNE 6

10am-2pm, GREENBELT FARMERS MARKET
Roosevelt Center Parking Lot, Centerway
Our vendors will be offering produce, pasture-raised meats, sustainable seafood, soaps, crepes, ice cream, bakery items, mushrooms, flowers, plants, coffee, ethnic food, and more! Visit www.greenbeltfarmersmarket.org.

11am-12:30pm, ARTFUL AFTERNOON PAINT-OUT PICNIC
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road
A plein air art event hosted by painter Racquel Keller, Greenbelt Recreation instructor and Greenbelt Community Center Artist in Residence. All ages and experience levels welcome. Bring your drawing and painting supplies or pick up some basics at the park. Create Greenbeltinspired landscape art. Camp chairs and sunscreen recommended. At your option, bring a snack! Masks required and social distancing will be maintained. Sign up at www.signupgenius.com/go/paintoutpicnic in advance for more information.

1pm-4pm, GREENBELT ARTISTS VIRTUAL OPEN STUDIO TOUR

Online and live on Instagram
Enjoy a friendly visit with the Greenbelt Community Center's Artists in Residence and other Greenbelt-affiliated artists. Fifteen-minute studio visits will be scheduled throughout the afternoon. Several participating artists have work available for purchase and accept commissions. See a preview of the artists' work in an online exhibition opening on Friday evening, June 4. Visit www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation for information about both the tour and the exhibition.

4pm, HOW THE NEW DEAL TRANSFORMED GREATER WASHINGTON
Online Panel Presentation
Join the Greenbelt Museum for a virtual panel talk that explores how the New Deal transformed the greater Washington area through parks, buildings, bridges, art, housing, and more! Offered in conjunction with the Living New Deal Project and cosponsored by the Art Deco Society of Washington. Free! Pre-registration required. To register visit: <https://bit.ly/2R7Bj9D> or scan the QR code!

FRIDAY, JUNE 4-SUNDAY, JUNE 6

ERHS Class of 2021 Graduates In Outdoor Ceremony, May 28

by Kyla Hanington

The Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) Class of 2021 graduated on Friday, May 28 with a brief ceremony held at Capital One Field, Maryland Stadium at the University of Maryland, College Park. Principal Reginald McNeill congratulated the graduates, acknowledged the many members of the class who had achieved a 4.0 grade point average and thanked teachers, parents and all who had supported the graduates in their endeavors.

The ceremony was shorter than previous years, notable for its lack of long speeches and acknowledgment of various elected



ERHS class of 2021 listens to Principal Reginald McNeill.

officials, as none were in attendance. This well-choreographed ceremony was mindful of everyone’s time while still marking the achievement of the graduates with solemnity and celebration. Appropriate safety measures were taken in terms of social distancing with designated seats

for graduates and guests spaced well apart and required mask wearing. Decision-makers had to keep a watchful eye on threatening weather, which fortunately held off until the ceremony was long over.



PHOTO BY KYLA HANINGTON

ERHS Graduate Nathan Addai Wins David Craig Scholarship

The David Craig Memorial Scholarship Foundation (DCMSF) announced on Monday, May 10 its selection of Nathan Addai of Bowie as its 2021 recipient of the newly raised \$12,000 award. This year’s Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) graduate will be enrolling at Anne Arundel Community College (AACC) this fall to study computer science.

In his four years at ERHS, Addai involved himself in many activities and courses of study. He was a member of the Track and Field Team; treasurer of the Black Student Union, organizing community events such as food drives and discussions of racism in America; mentor in the Science and Technology Mentoring Society, including serving as advisor to the class of 2024; a member of the National Honor Society and the Science National Honor Society; and first chair in the Concert Band.

Addai also participated in many activities outside of his school including being active in his church and volunteering at the Prince George’s County Animal Services Facility.

Addai’s leadership, interpersonal skills and kindness are beyond his years and he is well-respected by his classmates, as well as all those who have had the pleasure of teaching him.

Quotes from those who know him are filled with praise: “I have witnessed his commitment to excellence in his academic coursework as well as his positive outlook on education.” “Thoughtful, engaged, willing to take risks – these qualities have defined Nathan Addai’s two years in my class.” “If you saw Nathan’s genuine grin – a smile, cheek to cheek – you too would feel the warmth of a classroom community punctuated by Nathan’s presence.” “He works hard in everything he does and never settles for less than his best.”

“Students begin the Science and Technology Program in the ninth grade and conclude their experience with an original re-



Nathan Addai

PHOTO COURTESY NATHAN ADDAI

search project and senior thesis. Nathan’s research explores lightning through the Western Hemisphere, monitored through an instrument called the Geostationary Lightning Mapper. He is building a website that will allow users to query data from this tool.”

Addai has flourished throughout his four years in high school, maintaining a 4.104 GPA with a rigorous course load. In a year of chaos, calamity and closed schools, he has excelled beyond expectation in his virtual classroom and provisional and makeshift community.

In the words of Chief of Animal Services Rodney C. Taylor, “This young man values and gives his time and commitment to the four-legged homeless ones who depend on us to survive. Nathan demonstrates his passion for activism by challenging established social norms and exposing his personal experiences, by leading discussion, with unjust racial practices.”

With an interest in computer science and willingness to work, his goals to please his mom and determine his own future are beginning to take shape. The DCMSF is proud to assist Addai as he moves on from ERHS to AACC.



SCHOOLS continued from page 1

Magnolia Elementary to Robert Frost Elementary and from Greenbelt Middle School to either Thomas Jefferson or Charles Carroll Middle.

PGCPS reported that the approaches are based on the school system’s priorities, community feedback and original analysis conducted by a consultant team. The report explores school capacity and utilization, distance traveled to school and facility condition in addition to recent boundary changes and the possible impact on specialty programs and services.

“We do not take lightly the potential impact of a change in school boundaries on our students and families,” said Chief Executive Officer Monica Goldson. “But many schools are over

capacity, while others are under capacity or need revitalization. Given the expected increase in utilization and growth challenges, adjusting school boundaries now will help to provide all students with the educational experiences they deserve.”

The report has an interactive tool that offers three different approaches to boundary changes. After putting in an address, the user sees the existing assigned schools and three new scenarios. Scenario One puts the most importance on minimizing changes. Scenario Two emphasizes improving school utilization. Scenario Three focuses on improving facility conditions by moving more students to updated facilities.

Following public input throughout the spring and sum-

mer, a second round of community engagement activities will take place in the fall. The Boundary Initiative will conclude by February 2022 with recommended boundary changes offered by the CEO to the Prince George’s County Board of Education for their approval. Potential boundary changes will be phased in starting with the 2022–2023 school year.

For more information, visit the Boundary Initiative website at pgcps.org/boundary.



We're returning to normal business hours!

Beginning June 11, 2021

Mon-Thurs:

8:30am-3:00pm

Friday

9:00am-7:00pm

A large, round analog clock with a gold-colored frame and a white face. The hands are black, and the numbers are black. The time shown is 10:10.

The logo for Greenbelt FCU, featuring a green tree silhouette on the left and the text "Greenbelt FCU" in green on the right.

112 Centerway

Greenbelt, MD

(301)-474-5900

memberservices@greenbeltfcu.com

Paid Volunteers Needed

to participate in hearing research

You will receive \$12 per hour for your participation!

An icon showing a pair of red headphones with a white brain in the center, with yellow sound waves emanating from the headphones.

Who?

Persons 18 - 30 years old with normal hearing

Persons 65 - 85 years old with either normal hearing or hearing impairment

American English must be your first language.

Where?

Dept. of Hearing & Speech, LeFrak Hall, Univ of MD

What does the research involve?

You will be seated in a sound booth and will listen to sentences, tones, or noise bursts. You will be asked to push a button when you hear a particular sound, repeat the words or sentences you hear, or watch a video while we record your brainwaves to the sounds presented.

How long will it take?

Initial evaluation (to determine eligibility): 2 hours; pre, post, and training portion = approximately 25 hours.

For more information, please contact:

Ms. Carol Gorham

hearing@umd.edu, 301-405-4236

by Leeann Irwin



PHOTO BY IOE I I EN SAREE

A photograph of three individuals standing on a paved path outdoors. On the left, a woman with grey hair and glasses wears a blue t-shirt and black pants, holding a sign that reads "BLACK LIVES MATTER". In the center, a man wears a red baseball cap, a light blue face mask, a grey jacket over a blue shirt, and red sneakers. On the right, a woman wears a purple t-shirt and black pants, holding a large cardboard sign with handwritten text including "UNITED", "BLACK LIVES MATTER", "I AM A PERSON", "I AM NOT A THING", "I AM NOT A NUMBER", "I AM NOT A STATISTIC", "I AM NOT A CASE STUDY", "I AM NOT A PROBLEM", "I AM NOT A DIAGNOSIS", "I AM NOT A MEDICATION", "I AM NOT A TREATMENT", "I AM NOT A SYMPTOM", "I AM NOT A SIDE EFFECT", "I AM NOT A RISK FACTOR", "I AM NOT A COMORBIDITY", "I AM NOT A CHALLENGE", "I AM NOT A BARRIER", "I AM NOT A HURDLE", "I AM NOT A OBSTACLE", "I AM NOT A SETBACK", "I AM NOT A FAILURE", "I AM NOT A DEFEAT", "I AM NOT A LOSS", "I AM NOT A GRIEF", "I AM NOT A MOURNING", "I AM NOT A SORROW", "I AM NOT A PAIN", "I AM NOT A SUFFERING", "I AM NOT A MISERY", "I AM NOT A DISTRESS", "I AM NOT A TRAGEDY", "I AM NOT A CATASTROPHE", "I AM NOT A DISASTER", "I AM NOT A CALAMITY", "I AM NOT A MISFORTUNE", "I AM NOT A FETTER", "I AM NOT A BINDAGE", "I AM NOT A RESTRAINT", "I AM NOT A CONFINEMENT", "I AM NOT A DETENTION", "I AM NOT A PRISON", "I AM NOT A JAIL", "I AM NOT A COURT", "I AM NOT A TRIAL", "I AM NOT A VERDICT", "I AM NOT A SENTENCE", "I AM NOT A PUNISHMENT", "I AM NOT A REPRISAL", "I AM NOT A RETALIATION", "I AM NOT A VENGEANCE", "I AM NOT A REVENGE", "I AM NOT A JUSTICE", "I AM NOT A LAW", "I AM NOT A ORDER", "I AM NOT A RULE", "I AM NOT A REGULATION", "I AM NOT A DECREE", "I AM NOT A EDICT", "I AM NOT A COMMAND", "I AM NOT A DIRECTIVE", "I AM NOT A INSTRUCTION", "I AM NOT A ORDINANCE", "I AM NOT A STATUTE", "I AM NOT A ACT", "I AM NOT A LEGISLATION", "I AM NOT A POLICY", "I AM NOT A PROGRAM", "I AM NOT A PROJECT", "I AM NOT A INITIATIVE", "I AM NOT A CAMPAIGN", "I AM NOT A MOVEMENT", "I AM NOT A REVOLUTION", "I AM NOT A UPRISING", "I AM NOT A REBELLION", "I AM NOT A RIOT", "I AM NOT A LOOTING", "I AM NOT A VANDALISM", "I AM NOT A ARSON", "I AM NOT A BOMBING", "I AM NOT A SHOOTING", "I AM NOT A ASSAULT", "I AM NOT A AGGRAVATED ASSAULT", "I AM NOT A ROBBERY", "I AM NOT A BURGLARY", "I AM NOT A THEFT", "I AM NOT A LARCENY", "I AM NOT A RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY", "I AM NOT A OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE", "I AM NOT A WITNESS TAMPERING", "I AM NOT A EVIDENCE TAMPERING", "I AM NOT A FALSE ALIBI", "I AM NOT A PERJURY", "I AM NOT A OBSCURING EVIDENCE", "I AM NOT A INTERFERING WITH AN INVESTIGATION", "I AM NOT A HARBORING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A ASSISTING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING INFORMATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A CONCEALING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A HIDING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A SHELTERING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A EMPLOYING A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A PLACE OF HIDEOUT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF FOOD OR CLOTHING TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF MONEY TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF WEAPONS TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF DRUGS TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ALCOHOL TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF OTHER NEEDED SUPPLIES TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF INFORMATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SUPPORT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF MOTIVATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF GUIDANCE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ADVICE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF HELP TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF COMFORT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SOLACE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF RELIEF TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF RESCUE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SALVATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF DELIVERANCE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF LIBERATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF FREEDOM TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF PEACE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SAFETY TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SECURITY TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF PROTECTION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF DEFENSE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ASSISTANCE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SUPPORT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ENCOURAGEMENT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF MOTIVATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF GUIDANCE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF ADVICE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF HELP TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF COMFORT TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE OF SOLACE TO A FUGITIVE", "I AM NOT A PROVIDING A SOURCE 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The woman on the right also holds a small red fruit.

PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

**GIVE BLOOD
GIVE LIFE**

BUDGET continued from page 1

\$12,000 for software to manage the animal shelter volunteer hours, and \$20,000 for a contractor to seek and manage grants. This last expenditure was proposed by Councilmember Emmett Jordan at the first final budget worksession on May 17.

This proposal would keep the projected end-of-year fund balance at 17.0 percent, the minimum suggested by the city’s financial advisors.

Councilmember Silke Pope supported Davis’ proposal. Councilmember Leta Mach said that the only addition she could support (presumably beyond the workers’ compensation premium) was the tile floor project.

Jordan called Davis’ proposal reasonable but suggested using 0.2 percent to 0.4 percent more of the reserve to increase what council could add. He pushed to include an estimate of possible grant revenues that the position could generate but that idea found no apparent support among his colleagues. He argued that some new positions are really needed, including the assistant director of planning and community development and additional code enforcement officers.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts opposed touching the city’s reserves at all, asking why council always had to try to add in stuff it does not have the money for.

Tax Rate

The beginning of the meeting was cut off in the broadcast and streamed versions of the meeting. City Treasurer Bertha Gaymon told the News Review that, in response to a question from council, she reported that in projecting revenues she had assumed a gradual increase in economic development starting slowly in the first quarter (July to September) and picking up gradually until regaining its pre-pandemic level in the final quarter (April to June, 2022). She sees no reason yet to modify those assumptions.

She also told the News Review that Roberts had asked her what she would cut if the city needed to reduce expenditures. Gaymon stated that she would need to work with the department directors to determine where cuts

or delays in expenditures could occur based upon what was happening at the time.

Roberts and Jordan pressed to lower the tax rate to the level that would keep the city’s revenue from the tax level with the current fiscal year, rather than increasing due to higher assessments. Jordan pointed out that he had expressed his desire to do this at the first budget worksession. Davis expressed her frustration to be talking about this at the 23rd hour, not during the two months of budget worksessions. While Jordan had stated his desire, specific cuts to accomplish this goal have not been identified.

Byrd argued against lowering the tax rate, noting that the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, from which the city expects to receive a substantial amount, prohibits reducing taxes using ARP funds. He pushed to use more of the city’s reserves to fund additional programs, particularly the race and gender equity director that he proposed late in the first final budget worksession. Roberts repeated his unwillingness to use any of the city’s reserve funds to increase the level of expenditures.

Gaymon told the News Review that she had told council that in preparing the original budget proposal, “It was difficult to close the revenue vs. expenditures gap as we had to add new items like the maglev, absorb required increases in contracts and other expenses and incorporate increases in staff compensation. Reducing revenue by the Constant Yield rate would have forced major cuts throughout the budget.”

At the second public hearing on the budget, held during the May 24 regular council meeting, Bob Rudd urged council to not effectively raise taxes on those who own their own homes or small businesses. He argued that council has a duty to provide true homeowners and small businesses in Greenbelt with the kind of relief council has offered to others such as renters.

Lore Rosenthal sought and received confirmation that homeowners’ taxes will go up due to increases in assessed valuations

and that renters, in effect, face the likelihood of higher rents as these costs are passed through to them.

ARP

The ARP was a source of uncertainty and frustration among the councilmembers. The city is likely to get substantial funding through this national stimulus plan, perhaps as much as \$8 million to \$9 million each for the next two years. However, as Gaymon reported to council, the federal government is still working to define what the funds can and cannot be used for. With a recent update that the state will determine the funding allocation, Davis suggested that council lower its expectations of what it will receive. Gaymon noted that the city will be very constrained in terms of what the funds can be used for. The city will have to submit its spending plans for approval before the money can be spent and the project will be very paperwork-heavy, she cautioned. These funds are not included in the budget although they could be used to fund some of the wish list projects and offset certain revenue losses.

Byrd’s Concerns

In addition to his demand that the race and gender equity director position be included, he also wanted to ensure that the economic development intern receives at least \$15/hour. The director of race and gender equity would evaluate city actions in terms of their impact on people of color, women and people from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community. To accommodate this, he proposed taking another \$120,000 from the city’s reserves. There was no discussion of this proposal beyond Roberts’ opposition to using reserves.

City Manager Nicole Ard said that she has already committed to having a group of staff attend race and gender equity training and that the soon-to-be-announced human resources director is coming from an organization that specializes in race and gender equity.

Byrd’s proposal received support at the second public hearing on the budget, when Bob Rand called for more emphasis on the council work plan, arguing for including in the budget the racial and gender equity position and a second position in the Department of Planning and Community Development focused on evidence-based projects to invest in city neighborhoods to improve the quality of life, education, affordable housing, food and nutrition; to serve at-risk youth; and to reduce crime.

Abatements

Gaymon reported that the latest information from the county is that 41 commercial properties with a total assessed valuation of \$375 million have appealed their assessments, but the impact of the requested reductions on prop-

erty tax revenue is not yet available. The proposed budget has set aside \$450,000 for property tax abatements.

Next Step

Council will attempt to pass the budget at its June 7 regular meeting. Under the city charter the budget must be adopted by June 10. The budget resolution would normally require introduction at one meeting and adoption at a subsequent meeting. Because there is no time to follow normal procedure, council will need to suspend the rules allowing first and second reading to occur at the same meeting. A supermajority of six councilmembers must vote to suspend the rules although just a bare majority is needed to approve the budget itself.



A duck family hangs out at the pond near Schrom Hills Park.

PHOTO BY MARY MURCHISON-EDWARDS



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The US Department of the Treasury (Treasury), Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), published on June 4, 2021 its Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the **Proposed Construction and Operation of a Currency Production Facility (CPF) within the National Capital Region (NCR)**. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Final EIS analyzes potential environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts and identifies mitigation measures to reduce potential adverse impacts as a result of the proposal to construct and operate a new CPF within the NCR.

The Proposed Action would replace Treasury’s insufficient Washington, DC production facility (DC Facility), and would provide Treasury with a modern, scalable, sufficiently sized production facility within the NCR that meets Treasury’s needs. The Proposed Action would result in more efficient currency production, while allowing Treasury to maintain its presence within the NCR. Following construction of the new CPF, currency manufacturing at the DC Facility would be phased out.

Treasury considered and addressed in the Final EIS comments received on the Draft EIS from government agencies, Native American Tribes, and the public during the public comment period. Based on the thorough analysis presented in the Final EIS, Treasury will prepare and execute its Record of Decision (ROD) announcing which Alternative is environmentally preferable, which Alternative it selects for implementation (be it the Preferred Alternative or the No Action Alternative), and which mitigation measures it will implement to reduce potential adverse impacts. Finalization of the ROD will occur after July 6, 2021.

Printed copies of the Final EIS are available at the Puente Library at Capitol Technology University and the Thurgood Marshall Library at Bowie State University until July 6, 2021, or you may review the Final EIS and associated materials, including a Digital EIS (i.e., a digital representation of the data presented in the Final EIS) online at <https://www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project>. Treasury has also prepared a Spanish-language Executive Summary of the Final EIS, which is available at the libraries and on the project website.

If you have any further questions about the Proposed Action, or would like a hard copy of the Final EIS or related materials, you may contact Mr. Harvey Johnson, USACE – Baltimore District, Programs and Project Management Division: (1) by email to: BEP-EIS@usace.army.mil; (2) by phone at: (410) 977-6733; or (3) by mail to: ATTN: Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) Project EIS, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District Planning Division, 2 Hopkins Plaza, 10th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltnmd.gov/police. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Fraud
May 22, 11:18 a.m., 7500 block Greenbelt Road. A man placed a letter containing a check in a U.S. Postal System mailbox. Unknown person(s) gained access to the check, changed the amount and payee information and then cashed it.

May 24, 2:24 p.m., 7852 Walker Drive. A man placed letters containing checks in a U.S. Postal Service mailbox near the Community Center. Unknown person(s) gained access to the checks, changed the amount and payee information and attempted to cash them.

Theft
May 24, 10:29 a.m., 7513 Mandan Road. A package was taken from the front stoop of a residence.

May 24, 7:18 p.m., 6000 Greenbelt Road. A wallet was taken from a locker at Planet Fitness.

May 26, 11:50 a.m., 9100 block Springhill Lane. A woman's wallet was taken after she left it on the hood of her car. An app on the phone was later used to order merchandise.

Burglary
May 25, 2:51 a.m., 7619 Greenbelt Road. Officers responded to a report of a burglary in progress at the Greenbelt Road Exxon. Investigation revealed that two men forced entry into the service garage and took a 4-wheeler 2003 Suzuki LTZ400.

Vandalism
May 24, 2:52 p.m., 9135 Edmonston Terrace. A brick was thrown through the bedroom window of a residence.

May 25, 6:51 p.m. 9109 Springhill Lane. A resident said that unknown person(s) used a stick to break out the bedroom window of a residence.

May 26, 1:43 p.m., 9109 Springhill Lane. The kitchen window of a residence was broken by use of a stick.

Vehicle Crime
One vehicle was stolen from 6460 Capitol Drive on May 25, a white 2007 International box truck with Virginia tags UA59651.

Two vehicles were recovered. A 2016 Toyota Camry reported stolen March 22 from 5912 Cherrywood Lane was recovered May 24 by Metropolitan Police in the 3600 block Alabama Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. The tags on the vehicle at the time of theft, Maryland 6DX1368, were not recovered and are still out as stolen.

A 2021 Toyota Highlander SUV reported stolen to the Minnesota State Police was recovered May 25.

Four thefts occurred, three after breaking windows and one after removing the soft top of a vehicle. Loose change was taken from 6006 Springhill Drive; two video game discs from 9166 Edmonston Road; and money, air pods and a watch from 6239 Springhill Court. A wallet was taken from 6204 Springhill Drive and credit cards in it were used to make unauthorized purchases. The wallet itself was recovered by a resident the next day.

Three attempted thefts were reported. In two of them, 6200 Breezewood Drive and 6006 Springhill Drive, windows were broken in order to gain access and cars were rummaged through.

An attempt was made to gain entry into a vehicle at 6204 Springhill Drive, which damaged the door handle.

Two acts of vandalism involved breaking out windows at 6200 Breezewood Drive and 48 Court Ridge Road.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Call 1-866-411-TIPS. Drug Tip Line 240-542-2145.

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MATHEWS continued from page 1

years spent in law enforcement. For the next four years Mathews did not sit quietly at home. He landed a position with the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission, working as an instructor in the Community Outreach Division. Mathews developed and implemented a gang awareness program, traveling all over the State of Maryland conducting trainings. "This was a great position for me, it taught me a lot, how to speak to community groups and other officers," Mathews told the News Review.

In 2013 he accepted the community relations job in Greenbelt, the first civilian to hold this position. Being the press contact person for the department is one of his main duties and he is on call 24-7. He is responsible for the weekly crime report and is a liaison for the department with the city Youth Advisory Committee. Mathews enjoys working with young people and, as a crisis intervention counselor, another one of his duties, he has worked closely with the Eagle All-Stars, a mentoring program located at Springhill Lake Elementary School.

The job has changed over the years due to social media. "Citizens are informed very quickly about a crime incident, road closures or crime trends, which is a good thing," said Mathews. Explaining further, he stated that through Facebook, Twitter and the Neighbors website, information is driven out quickly as an

incident unfolds, to people who need it, which takes pressure off the police. Mathews says he has worked hard to educate the public about crime trends, such as the recent rash of car thefts, by putting out videos, press releases and citizen advisories warning people not to leave their cars running with the keys in the ignition even for a moment.

This past year during the pandemic Mathews missed dealing with people in person. "It sort of took the wind out of my sail for a while," he stated. He went on to explain that it took a lot to maintain relationships within the city, something he values greatly. Mathews has many fond memories of the people he has worked with through the years and the friendships he has made, telling the News Review, "I value these personal relationships and friendships more than ever... looking back, I will miss this."

Mathews plans to keep busy in his retirement by spending more time with his wife, two daughters and friends. When asked what advice he would give to the next person to fill his shoes Mathews stated, "Be all in with the community, love the people and show empathy, you have to like working with people and kids."





May is Mental Health Awareness Month

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS YEAR ROUND.

While Mental Health Awareness Month is coming to an end, it is important to know mental health matters.



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City Notes

Animal Control returned a stray dog, removed a cat from an eviction and investigated an animal bite. The shelter houses three dogs, five cats, eight kittens and a rabbit. Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center staff and Animal Control removed birds from facility buildings. With increasing activity at Buddy Attick Park, rangers observed many out-of-state license plates.

Museum staff interviewed James Giese, former longtime city manager. Renovations to the Old Greenbelt Theatre's pop-up theater begin this week.

Public Works facilitated sound equipment for Memorial Day commemorations and Refuse/Recycling collected 30.49 tons of refuse and 10.52 tons of recyclables.

The Virtual Recreation Center features Juneteenth and Greenbelt Day Weekend activities. Both recreation centers will begin limited drop-in use soon, so the successful Fit Family Hour program has ended. Department-wide review of Covid-19 protocols may expand access to facilities and programs.

Therapeutic Recreation Zoom-facilitated yoga classes and Golden Age Club bingo and organized meal delivery for 32 seniors. GAIL conducted a Caregiver's Appreciation Day distribution.

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NOTICE

I recently stumbled online upon a 1hr 17min lecture by Gabor Maté MD, titled, When the Body Says No in Psychotherapy. I believe you will see, as I now can see, that there are some surprising correlations between personality types and when people die. I wrote a 3-page summary which I would share. Bill Norwood, bnorwood111@gmail.com.

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BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

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Can You Make a Cicada Map By Keeping Your Ears Open?

by Herb Reed and Cathie Meetre

Herb Reed, Ph.D., is an entomologist and University of Maryland Extension Service senior agent emeritus who lives in the Lakewood subdivision. On being asked by a permanently puzzled News Review reporter why there were so many cicadas in some city areas but very few up by the Research Road gate into Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), he, as a true scientist, decided to investigate empirically.

Reed took a leisurely stroll up to the BARC gate from Empire Place and through it on Research Road down to Beaver Dam Creek (where the eagles live) at midday Saturday, May 22, during the height of the cacophony.

Reed's Report

"The cicadas seemed to be loudest at the corner of Empire Place and Greenhill Road," Reed discovered on his walk. "The wooded hillside bounded by Ridge Road, Empire Place and Greenhill Road seems to be the source of the most spirited singing. My hypothesis is that this area is relatively undisturbed in terms of tree canopy compared to some other areas for the period of say the last three or four 17-year cycles. This is important because the cicadas do not move very much when they are under the ground as they need to be feeding on tree roots and they are not going to strike off cross-country in search of more roots. So their only chance to move is when they emerge and the adults appear to be relatively weak flyers (this is an area where I am lacking data but I surmise that they do not move more than a few meters generally).

"If an area has been in farmland with few wooded areas, it is not going to have many cicadas except for the wooded patches," explained Reed. "And in fact, as I got closer to the gate and the research farm fields the cicadas did indeed quiet down significantly. I could still hear them clearly at the gate. But as I proceeded through the gate and down the Research Road hill toward the stream, they diminished very quickly to the point that by about a quarter-mile beyond the gate I had to listen carefully to



A cicada climbs up a tree.

PHOTO BY STEVE BUCCA

hear them and soon after that did not hear them even where there was something of a wooded area to the right going down the hill. "Maybe this area (the copse on the right) was still open fields several cicada cycles ago?" Reed suggested. "Again, we would need more data – maybe some aerial maps from say, the 1950s."

In conclusion, said Reed, "The good news in this analysis is that the efforts in Greenbelt to preserve wooded areas appear to be well worth it for periodic cicadas and their fans, not to mention the animals which enjoy eating them."

Cautious Speculation

Reed was anxious for the newspaper to note that his study is neither scientifically accurate nor quantitative but feels it is a fine indicator of the density of the cicadas.

He also noted in conversation that he believed the steep hillside between Ridge Road and Empire Place was a focal point for the cicada brood, speculating that because of its steepness, the area might not have been plowed even

before the city was built in the late 1930s on land that had been worn out by generations of tobacco farming. This would have insulated an island of trees and vegetation that was hospitable to the long-term survival of the insects.

He pointed out that a fairly accurate map of cicada concentration could be put together by walking the streets using a meter to measure sound levels at regular intervals.

Editor's Note: Cicadas scarcely got a mention in the Greenbelt News Review or its predecessor, the Greenbelt Cooperator, until 2004. The construction of the original community in the late 1930s likely wiped out lots of cicadas – 1936 was an emergence year for Brood X – and it may have taken a few cycles for cicada numbers to build up after that.



Have You Seen Birds Munching on Cicadas?

The Maryland Ornithological Society is studying which bird species are foraging on Brood X periodical cicadas for a publication in Maryland Birdlife. Those observing a bird eating a cicada are encouraged to tell the society about it. It is important to be able to identify the species of bird doing the eating. "Little brown bird" isn't enough; the society needs to know chickadee, bald eagle, turkey vulture, etc.

So, Greenbelters who know a robin from a cardinal, a blue jay from a woodpecker, a hawk from a raven are encouraged to participate. A website form is available to record observations at bit.ly/BirdsEatingCicadas. For each individual observation of a bird eating a cicada, there are five short questions to answer; each cicada snack is to be separately recorded. People and dogs eating cicadas don't count. Just birds.

Questions or photos can be emailed to Gabriel Foley at mddebba3@mdbirds.org. If sending photos, indicate whether or not the photos can be used, with credit, in an article summarizing the data for Maryland Birdlife.



Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.

editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

Overpayments Policy

To properly account for overpayments too small to warrant refunding, effective March 25, 2021, the News Review will accumulate overpayments of less than \$1.00 and periodically contribute the funds to a registered charity. Once the office reopens, this policy will not apply to payments made in person.

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Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Coming Soon!

Brick Townhome - Corner Lot Bedroom Addition with full bath Text 'BARGAIN' to 88000 for more info.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced, corner lot. Large family room addition in back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened kitchen, new carpet, place in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With Stainless Steel appliances.

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. New HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood flooring on both levels.

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home with new kitchen, bath & ceramic tile floors.

SOLD

Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center

Old Armory to Get Assessment Before Concrete Plans Are Poured

by Brogan Gerhart

The Greenbelt Armory has sat undisturbed and underutilized on the corner of Southway and Greenbelt Road since 2016. That may change, as the City of Greenbelt has been given the chance to acquire the building and site surrounding it for no charge, according to Greenbelt City Councilmember Judith Davis. However, the cost for repairs has not yet been estimated by the city.

The two-story red-brick structure was built in 1954 and has several detached garages and storage facilities on site, according to a request for a proposal report compiled by Assistant Director of Public Works Brian Kim. In addition to the armory itself, the site the armory is located on is approximately eight acres, the size of just over six football fields.

With the demands created over time by the expansion of Central Greenbelt to Greenbelt East and Greenbelt West, Davis said a new, modern firehouse is one idea being considered for the space once the property is acquired. Councilmember Leta Mach also advocated in an email for the armory to be used for “additional city office space as it is close to the center of town and city offices.”

“We want to acquire it and I’m pretty sure we will be acquiring it,” Davis said, explaining that the city is next in line to receive the building if they want it, since both the state and county did not want the surplus government building when it was offered up by the National Guard.

Although the city has dibs on the armory, Davis said that she wanted an assessment of the building done prior to officially accepting it to see if there are any major problems with the property.

Kim, who has been to the site several times and is the primary point of contact for the armory project, said the city has “received proposals [for assessing the site] and they are currently under review.” After a proposal is selected, a recommendation will be given to City Manager Nicole Ard. Kim said he is unable to give a date as to when a proposal will be accepted.

“As far as the land and the facilities, it is a very valuable piece of land,” Kim said. “Having said that, in the last year and a half, the building itself has deteriorated quite significantly. There’s been no maintenance on the building [and] with regard to hazardous material and contamination, that is still unknown.” Kim said the request for proposal and assessment phase, which is where they are now, will help determine these variables and hopefully lead into the next step of this process which is the city deciding what it wants to do with the space once it is assessed and formally acquired.

While the future of the armory is still in flux, the building has had a long history with the City of Greenbelt. According to the News Review archives, the armory was dedicated in 1955 by former Maryland governor Theodore McKeldin and then-commanding officer of the Maryland National Guard Major General

Milton Reckord.

For over 60 years since its dedication, the Greenbelt Armory has had a hand in everything from creating contention between the military and the city to participating in national events and tragedies to hosting community events for Greenbelters.

In 1958 there was a disagreement between National Guard leaders and the city who fought for the removal of a “hideous, cheap” sign that hid the “attractive marble front of the building.” In 1968 members of the National Guard stationed at the armory were sent to control the riots in Washington, D.C., following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. And in the 1960s it was used for community activities including the Mishkan Torah Sisterhood antique show and sale in 1969 and the News Review’s 25th Anniversary dinner.

Regardless of its perception

by residents throughout time, the armory has stood as a solid and consistent part of the city for many years. As of now, there is no set date to discuss the plans for this space in upcoming work-sessions, but Davis said council is waiting for the assessment of the building to be completed before planning what to do with the space.

In 1955 it was Reckord’s and other officials’ “desire and intention to offer the armory to the residents of Greenbelt for whatever use they may have in mind.” Whether this ideal was achieved by the government or not is debatable, but the city has similar intentions for its residents to be a part of the process.

“Once we know exactly what we have,” Davis said, “definitely as far as designs and what is going to go in the building ... residents will be very much involved in what goes there.”



The National Guard Greenbelt Armory sits on the corner of Southway and Greenbelt Road. Abandoned by the National Guard in 2016, the city anticipates acquiring the armory and site around it, but is still deciding what it should do with the space.



The Armory



Carol Slatin visited the Parthenon in Nashville (Tennessee, not Greece) and took a photo with the News Review.

City Council and American Legion Honor Fallen Heroes

by Butch Hicks



John Hill (back to camera) and Police Chief Richard Bowers stand during Memorial Day Observance on May 31.

The Greenbelt City Council and the American Legion Post 136 family held a Memorial Day ceremony at the city’s War Memorial to honor the more than one million men and women who have lost their lives defending America since the Revolutionary War. The solemn memorial, which followed assembly and communications constraints caused by the Covid-19 virus, featured commentary, the Star-Spangled Banner, Pledge of Allegiance, taps and wreath placements.

Post 136 Commander Mike Moore said, “This day is sacred with the almost visible presence of those who have gone before us. We are here to honor the memory of those who gave their lives in the service of our country. May the ceremonies of today deepen our reverence for our departed family members and friends whose selfless service and sacrifice has helped us to preserve our nation. Because this is a day of remembrance, I ask that you remember the 22 veterans from our post who have passed away in the last year and keep them and their families in your thoughts and prayers.”

Mayor Colin Byrd addressed the cost of war, saying no one wants to lose their lives but the Memorial Day ceremony allows us to honor those who did. Byrd read the annual Memorial Day proclamation which acknowl-

edged the brave men and women who gave their lives to protect our country. “We are saddened by the deaths of America’s sons and daughters and the hardship endured by their families ... we are gathered at the Greenbelt War Memorial to once again remember and honor those from our own community. This proclamation expresses deep gratitude to the women and men who have given their lives in the service of the United States of America who are remembered not just this day but every day [for] the ultimate sacrifice they made so that we may enjoy peace, prosperity and the freedom we all cherish.”

As Eleanor Roosevelt said, “When all is said and done, and statesmen discuss the future of the world, the fact remains that people fight these wars.”

War veterans are the last to lionize war and its devastating results. Former President and Commander of allied forces in Europe during World War II, Dwight D. Eisenhower, agreed. “I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity.” But he also understood the reality of today’s world. “History does not long entrust the care of freedom to the weak or the timid,” he said.

The Memorial Day event was recorded for community presentation on Facebook and local cable channels.

Local Sorority Collects Shoes And Eye Glasses for Needy

by Julie Rapp

The Psi Epsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., a local organization dedicated to service, has collected more than 2,600 pairs of shoes for families in need. One of three collection sites, the Greenbelt Community Church, received a total of 685 pairs of shoes from members. The shoes were delivered to Sole4Souls, an organization that provides unwanted shoes and clothing to people living in poverty around



Sorority members collect more than 2,600 pairs of shoes for families in need.

the world. The sorority also collected more than 300 pairs of eye glasses with 78 coming from Greenbelt for the Lions Club.